

REPORT NO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A2g
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1X6

1. As of 7 a.m., 2 March 1949, less than 20 per cent of the oil workers in the Maracaibo petroleum area had returned to their jobs. However, the Army did not impose the state of siege it had announced for that hour, but instead deferred the deadline until 2 p.m. of the same day.*
2. After the postponement of the deadline the Army commandeered oil company vehicles and cruised the area encouraging the strikers to return to the fields under military protection. This appeal met with an increasing response, and by 10 a.m. on 2 March the Tia Juana field reported 40 per cent and the Cabimas field 30 per cent of the strikers back on the job. Later in the day 80 per cent of the strikers had returned to work in the West Lake area and it was believed that all of the strikers would have returned by the end of the day.**
3. As of the morning of 3 March 1949 all strikers had returned to work, and the situation was normal in all areas. Up to that time the strike had been orderly, and no incidents had been reported.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment. *The deferment of the deadline was probably done at the suggestion of the oil companies and because of the belief that many of the strikers would return to work if not in fear of violence.

***As of 4 p.m. on 2 March strikers were returning to work in sufficient numbers to substantiate the opinion that the strike was breaking up.

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